

I am against the consolitation of media outlets. It is bad for jobs. It is bad for competition.

I am a video editor and have worked for television stations as well as independent production companies. I am currently out of work, I believe because of the merging of television outlets. As soon as there is duplicitity of jobs in a big company, there are lay offs and job position elimination.

Competition has become so severe between these bigger companies that the public is no longer being served. I heard a promotional ad for the local, WCBS-TV news in New York on Friday that was, for me the last straw.

It said, "Women are being abducted by being thrown into traveling vans, we'll tell you where at 5:00!" Now to me, if they wanted to serve the public, they would say right then and there where these abductions were. The public is no longer who these news programs are trying to serve. The public is no longer part of the equation.

Profits, market share, ratings points, BOTTOM LINE are the only driving factor in television today. It has ruined my industry by eliminating quality. The bigger company needs more money to operate at a profit. Every rating point is even more important to the profitability of the bigger company. The company needs to be ruthless to get those points, and at the cost of the public interest. They do not have the "luxury" to take the time to give the public quality.

Thank you for the opportunity to give you my feelings on the matter.

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